

Office of Communications & Engagement 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 2200 • Atlanta, GA 30303

Ericka B. Davis Chief Communications Officer 404-893-3033, office 404-226-9339, cell edavis@srta.ga.gov Scheree C. Rawles Communications & Media Relations Director 404-893-3025, office 470-249-7531, cell srawles@srta.ga.gov

For Immediate Release:

July 9, 2020

EXECUTE: Xpress Transit Services Transfers to Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority Effective July 1.

Georgia Regional Transportation Authority Will Continue to Oversee Developments of Regional Impact Reviews and Approval of the Metro Atlanta Transportation Improvement Program.

ATLANTA – The state's Xpress regional transit service has transferred to the Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority (ATL), starting July 1, 2020. The change comes as a result of HB 930, the ATL's original enabling legislation from 2018, which mandated that Xpress operations transfer to ATL no later than June 30, 2021, and transfer of Xpress' operating budget from GRTA to ATL in the Fiscal Year 2021 state budget.

"The Xpress regional bus service is one of the State's solutions to meeting some of metro-Atlanta's regional commuter needs. Xpress has been a critical component of the region's mobility network for the past 16 years, and the ATL's oversight will lead the service into the future as part of a regionally connected transit network", stated Chris Tomlinson, ATL Executive Director.

This change in Board governance will not result in any disruptions in current service and the changes do not impact current Xpress staff. Xpress gives commuters throughout the metro Atlanta region a reliable transportation option. Xpress offers 27 routes in 12 metro Atlanta counties completing more than 1.8 million passenger trips annually, providing workers with reliable, stress-free commutes to and from major employment centers in Downtown, Midtown, and Perimeter Center.

The Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) which previously had oversight of Xpress, will continue to oversee the review of all Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) within its 13-county metro Atlanta jurisdiction and approve the allocation of state and federal transportation resources in metro Atlanta via the Atlanta Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

To codify the legislative change, the ATL Board approved a resolution amending its Bylaws to create the Xpress Operations Standing Committee on May 27, 2020. This committee will provide Board level oversight of the policies, operations and functions of Xpress and the state's regional Vanpool program.

About the Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority

The ATL was established by HB 930 to provide coordinated transit planning and funding for the metro Atlanta region. The ATL is responsible for developing a Regional Transit Plan, as well as identifying and prioritizing the projects and initiatives required to develop region-wide transit. The ATL is also charged with creating a unified regional transit system brand. The population of metro Atlanta is growing rapidly — projected to add an additional 2.5 million residents by 2040. The ATL is a critical step towards more efficient and effective transit and mobility in the region. For more information on The ATL, visit https://atltransit.ga.gov/ and follow us Twitter and Facebook.